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Newsletter #80:

What's New at Shanna Schmidt Numismatics Inc.

Hello everyone! I'm writing this newsletter sitting outside and enjoying a mild Chicago summer day. As I consider what is happening out west with the California wildfires I'm thankful for the peaceful uncomplicated summer I have been lucky to experience. Summer is starting to come to a close, or at least the quiet of it all. I'll be in Philadelphia starting on Monday next week for the World's Fair of Money (PNG day on the 13th and subsequently the ANA the 14-18). Some of you have mentioned that you will be there and I look forward to seeing you there. I imagine that after a few months folks are eager to see what is new on the market.

MY TABLE AT THE SHOWS:

For PNG day I am at table 412 and the ANA at table 1428. If you decide to arrive for the PNG day please get in touch with me via email or text and I can give you free entry to the show.

SHOW HOURS:

Monday is PNG day and is invitation only. There will be a finite group of dealers there and the majority are U.S. coin dealers. I will be one of a handful of ancient dealers exhibiting.

Tuesday 1pm to 6pm; Wednesday-Friday 10 am to 6 pm

Saturday 10 am to 4 pm (FREE admission on Saturday!)

Last admission is 30 minutes prior to closing.

Admission is \$8 for the public; free for ANA members and children under 12.

Admission is free on Saturday, August 18.

TIPS FOR THE SHOW:

If you don't typically attend coin shows the ANA can be overwhelming. There are a lot of dealers and opportunities abound in material. My advice is to find dealers in the program guide that you know you want to visit instead of walking around aimlessly. The ancient and world dealers are generally located in a smaller section of the room. Since the show is heavy on U.S. coins it was determined that ancient and world dealers should have their own section. Some dealers don't have the luxury of getting a place in the section but most are within the designated area.

View each dealers stock and take another walk around the room to consider what you may want to purchase. Negotiate. Dealers expect this. Don't expect more than 10% from any dealer. This is the unwritten average for discounts. Anything more than that can be tricky. Be aware that using CoinArchives as a basis on pricing can be complicated. Even though coins may appear to look "the same" in most cases there is a good reason why a coin might be more or less expensive than another of the same type. Don't insult a dealer that has what you consider a strong price on a coin by offering a deeply reduced figure. I promise you that every dealer will want your business so they will make the best effort to give you pricing that works for both parties. Most important, use the opportunity to introduce yourself to a dealer that you might want to work with in the future. Even if you don't purchase that day it is a good time to familiarize yourself with the names and faces of the players in the market.

SEMINARS:

There are some good seminars just prior to the start of the show that are taught by some very knowledgeable numismatists. The one that is specific to ancient coins is taught by Kerry Wetterstrom. Kerry is an employee of CNG and was the former editor of the now folded *Celator*. Information is below taken directly from the ANA site.

An Introduction to Collecting Ancient Greek & Roman Coins **(Prior to the Philadelphia World's Fair of Money)**

Students will learn the basics of collecting ancient Greek and Roman coins in this two-day class, designed specifically for new and beginning collectors. Topics include a general survey of ancient coins, how to build a basic reference library, utilizing the Internet for collecting and research, and learning the basics of detecting counterfeits. Participants are encouraged to bring their own coins for discussion.

Instructor: Kerry K. Wetterstrom

Date & Time: August 12-13; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Cost: \$259; Register by June 29 for a \$25 discount. ANA life members save an additional \$40.

Location: Philadelphia, PA

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Here is a link to the schedule of events for the show. There are numerous clubs that meet and all of them would be happy to see new members join. Take advantage of the talks and meetings taking place as this happens only once a year in such abundance. If you have questions please don't hesitate to ask me.

<https://www.money.org/uploads/wfm18/0727%20Schedule%20at%20a%20Glance%20ANA%202018.pdf>

ANA AUCTIONS

I've mentioned this already in the last few newsletters so I will simply list the auctions that have ancient portions below. If you want my assistance for viewing and/or bidding please get in touch.

Stacks Bowers & Ponterio WFOM Auction – August 14 – 9 a.m. EST (Lots 20001–20653)

Heritage Auctions WFOM Platinum Night – August 17 – 6 p.m. EST (Lots 30001–30453)

Fall European auctions that I will attend and/or view

The catalogs are not yet out for any of the auctions but I would expect to see something by the end of August hit our emails and snail mail boxes. The confirmed auctions for the moment are:

NAC (Zurich): September 24.

I noticed that NAC has listed now the specific collections that are to be auctioned. It looks to be an interesting group. Auction 110 is The Jean L. Collection of Greek Coins and Auction 111 is “An interesting series of Roman Gold Coins featuring the Collection of a Retired European Banker and the Pierre Bastien Collection”.

Roma (London): September 26.

I understand from the Roma folks that this catalog will contain a substantial group of Etruscan and Tarsiote coins. Once I get more information on the remainder of the catalog I will inform you. The Roma auction is a few days prior to Coinex so it will be easy to travel to if you are at NAC or if you conversely want to attend Coinex and choose to come in a few days earlier.

Künker (Osnabrück): October 8–12.

I will be traveling to beautiful Osnabrück to view and bid in their auction just after Coinex in London. Catalogs are not yet out but as soon as they are I will be informing you.

Gorny & Mosch (Munich): October 15–17.

My last stop on the European tour is in Munich where G&M will hold their auctions 257–259. Once the catalogs become available I will let you know.

Nomos (Zurich) October 26:

While I won't be able to attend the auction I will be going through the entire auction

when I visit Zurich in September for NAC. The catalogs are not yet out but I will inform you once they are available.

Leu Numismatik (Zurich): October 27.

Once the catalogs come out I can take viewing notes for specific lots but I intend to view the auction in its entirety and phone and/or bid online on the 27th.



Coin of the Week

<https://www.shannaschmidt.com/roman-empire/egypt-alexandria-hadrian-117-138-ad-dated-ry-18-ad-133134?rq=re1060>

EGYPT, Alexandria. Hadrian. 117-138 AD. Dated RY 18 (AD 133/134)

Æ Drachm, 28.85g (35mm, 12h). VT KAIC TPAIAN • [AΔPIA]NOC CEB, bareheaded bust left, slight drapery / Isis Pharia, holding billowing sail, sailing right before the Pharos of Alexandria, which is surmounted by a statue and two Tritons; L IH (date) above

Pedigree: From the Giovanni Maria Staffieri Collection, purchased from Renzo Canavesi, Sagno, 1996. Ex Renzo Canavesi Collection (Sagno); Dr. Piero Beretta Collection (Milan); Giovanni Dattari Collection, no. 7719

Price: \$11,500

The coinage of Alexandria is rich in the meshing of two histories; the Egyptian and Roman. Egypt was a place of power in the time of the Pharaohs, legendary and awe-inspiring when one considers the Kingdoms that existed so long ago. Once Alexander the Great conquered the great city and upon his death the Ptolemies became the new government things changed. Under Ptolemy I the library of Alexandria came into existence. This library was considered the best in the known world. After a few impactful interactions with the Romans, the Egyptian culture, while still rich, was married to the Roman way of life.

The reverse of this coin shows a beautiful image of Isis Pharia holding a billowing sail and in front the Pharos of Alexandria. Isis Pharia was an Egyptian goddess but her virtues spread throughout the Greco-Roman world. She was a mother, wife and matron of the arts and magic. She was friends with the downtrodden as well as the wealthy. Everyone was dear to her. The Romans credited her with the invention of the sail. According to Pliny, Isis Pharia was from Pharos which had a bridge that connected her to Alexandria. This coin shows the Lighthouse of Alexandria just beyond her. The Lighthouse was one of the seven wonders of the world and was suggested to be built during the reign of Ptolemy I but completed by his son Ptolemy II in the 3rd century BC. It survived hundreds of years but was thought be destroyed sometime in the 1400's.

These large bronze coins help to celebrate the existence of the Alexandria's Lighthouse and its mystical connection with the goddess. It is a lovely piece that the emperor Hadrian was paying tribute.

References: Köln 1123; Dattari (Savio) 7719 (this coin); K&G 32.587; RPC III 5896/11 (this coin, illustrated on pl. 292); Emmett 1002.18 (R3); Staffieri, Alexandria In Nummis 72 (this coin).

Grade: EF, dark brown surfaces with touches of green. Wonderful artistic bust of Hadrian, and very rare compared to the typical laureate, draped, and cuirassed bust to the right.

re1060

<https://www.shannaschmidt.com/roman-empire/egypt-alexandria-hadrian-117-138-ad-dated-ry-18-ad-133134?rq=re1060>

If you are interested in this coin please click the link above or email me at shanna@shannaschmidt.com

Until next week!
Shanna

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